

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

CITY OF PLAINFIELD

NEW JERSEY



1906

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DAILY PRESS PRINT
Plainfield, N. J.

OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF PLAINFIELD

1906

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WILLIAM L. GLOAK

SECOND WARD

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DANIEL F. GINNA

FRANCIS L. MONTGOMERY

HENRY D. HIBBARD

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LESLIE M. DANIEL

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FRANK DEWITT RANDOLPH

HERBERT BUXTON

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GEO. P. MELLICK, Chairman Fire and Buildings

HERBERT BUXTON, Chairman Public Affairs

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W. F. ARNOLD, City Treasurer
CRAIG A. MARSH, Corporation Council
A. J. GAVETT, City Surveyor and Street Commissioner
Wm. N. RUNYON, City Judge
A. D. AYERS, Overseer of Poor
P. S. KIELY, Chief of Police
C. B. LUFBURROW M. D., City Physician
T. O. DOANE, Chief Fire Dep't and Building Inspector

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CHAS. H. HAND, 2d Ward
J. A. HUBBARD, 3d Ward
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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

1907

To the Honorable Common Council, City of Plainfield:

Gentlemen:—The present administration has within its power to make the city of Plainfield known as the most progressive, enterprising, best governed city in the State of New Jersey.

The charter provides that the government shall be vested in a Mayor and Common Council, consisting of eleven members, and all that is required is that this body should conduct the affairs in a common sense, honest, thorough, business-like manner, wholly in the interests of the entire inhabitants, permitting no personal, political, individual, or corporate influence to swerve them from their purpose of acting on all matters that are brought before them, solely in the interests and for the benefit of the community in which they live and have been elected by the people to represent.

The City of Plainfield has no Board of Police Commissioners, Board of Fire Commissioners, Board of Public Works, Board of Water Commissioners, Excise Board, Board of Finance, Estimate and Appropriation, as some of the larger cities, but the whole government is vested in the Common Council. For convenience in conducting the business of the city it is the regular custom for the Common Council under rules adopted by the members, to be divided into various committees appointed by the president, the duties of which are to conduct and direct the business and working of the respective departments, subject, however, to the Council as a whole. These committees and the heads of the various departments have all submitted their annual reports of what has been done under their direction during the past year, the present condition of affairs in their respective departments, and recommendations for such improvements and work that should be taken up and carried out by your present body. These reports all speak for themselves and should be carefully read and considered by the proper committees.

The City of Plainfield is now entering upon the thirty-ninth year of its existence as an incorporated city. It has a population of nearly 20,000 inhabitants. An assessed valuation for the purpose of taxation of \$20,900,000. The city has built and owns for school purposes seven school buildings, which, including furnishing, are valued at over \$400,000; fire houses and equipments, \$58,000; police alarm systems, \$8,000; expenditure on permanent improvements of streets during the last ten years, \$300,000; cost of installing sewers and sewerage, disposal plant, \$310,000; various properties bought for taxes, \$7,200; total, \$1,083,200. Against which we have a bonded indebtedness: Sewer bonds, \$125,000; sewer notes to be replaced by bonds, \$78,000; High School bonds, \$136,000; other school bonds, \$22,000; Lincoln School mortgage, \$17,000; crematory bonds, \$700; total, \$378,700.

I call your attention to these figures as I shall refer to them more particularly later on. In order to familiarize myself with the present condition and needs of each separate department of the city, I am making a personal inspection and investigation, and as soon as your new committees are organized and ready, I shall take up with them in detail the requirements of their respective departments. At this time I shall confine myself to the more important questions of public interest, taking them up under proper heads.

POLICE

The police department of the city is in good condition. From a careful investigation made by me within the past few weeks, I am of the opinion that for so small a force the officers and men of the department are doing all that can be expected of them.

I would urge that your Honorable Body, by resolution, provide for a greater number of regular patrolmen than the rules of the department now allow. Under present conditions, the services of a number of special policemen are required, and while these specials are practically all probationers, who, in case of proven efficiency, are designed to become regular members of the force, the fact still remains that they are but specials, and

that there is no place for them among the regulars until the rules of the department are so amended as to provide for their admission. This condition is fraught with more serious possibilities than at first sight may appear. Special policemen are generally expected to do occasional duty only, and at the rate of twenty-five cents an hour during the time of actual service. Our special policemen, so far as hours of service and recompense are concerned, and in fact, in everything but appointment and confirmation, are regular policemen, and in case of any possible dispute between the city and such officers, I have grave doubts as to whether the courts would allow the city to cast these men aside for any cause except inefficiency or dereliction of duty, proven after due trial. My idea is to make a probationer's term of service as short as is compatible with the maintenance of a high standard, and at the end of such term to appoint and confirm such special policeman as a regular. And at the beginning of his probationary term, it would seem to me desirable that he should enter into a contract, releasing the city from all liability in case his eventual appointment as a regular should not be deemed advisable or expedient.

The more familiar a policeman becomes with the geography, the buildings and the residents of his beat, the more efficient services can he do, and I would therefore ask your Honorable Body to take under advisement the feasibility of establishing rules which will result in assigning patrolmen permanently to the various beats, instead of shifting them frequently from one district to another as is now the practice.

That our city has been comparatively free from crime and disorder is cause for much congratulation, but this happy condition of affairs should by no means lull us into any false sense of security or render us unmindful of the duty imposed on us to make our police department as able and efficient as our ingenuity and means will allow.

I recommend that a resolution be passed authorizing the increase of regular officers by the appointment of nine additional patrolmen. As we have for some time been employing five special officers this will be an increase of four men which are

very much needed. I recommend that the rules be amended creating three classes of special men:

Class A—Janitors of schools, banks, and other public buildings. Sextons of churches, etc.

Class B—Men who are assigned from time to time for temporary or special duty, at twenty-five cents per hour.

Class C—Men employed under contract for regular duty, as suggested previously, at a salary of \$2.00 per day during the probationary period.

I also recommend a mounted policeman for the business section of the city during the day. One mounted man can do more efficient work in regulating traffic, preventing reckless driving, overspeeding of automobiles, etc., than several men on foot or with bicycle.

I recommend that the Police Board do all they can to encourage the installing of the Gamewell Auxiliary police boxes in residences, particularly in the outlying districts. With one of these call boxes in the house communicating directly with the police station, no better protection could be provided.

FIRE AND BUILDINGS

As soon as practical, a fire house should be erected and apparatus installed in the eastern end of our city. This section is rapidly growing, is entitled and should have better protection.

The West Second street fire house is in bad condition, and should be remodeled as recommended by the Chief of the Fire Department in his report.

The Building Ordinance needs some amendment, but this matter should be handled with great care and given serious consideration. Before adopting any regulations in regard to cement blocks and re-inforced concrete the city should have the very best expert advice that can be obtained on the subject.

STREETS

Several important matters in regard to streets should be taken up and have your early consideration.

First—Providing a more lasting and permanent pavement for the business section. The following streets should be so paved:

Watchung avenue, Park avenue, Madison avenue, Central avenue, from Fourth street to Front street; Front street, from Watchung avenue to Central avenue; Somerset street, from Front street to city line; North avenue, from Park avenue to Watchung avenue.

The cost of this improvement should be about \$40,000 and could be provided for by an issue of street improvement bonds running over a term of years. On all improved streets sidewalks should be ordered laid and curb set. West Fourth street should be graded and macadamized from Monroe avenue to city line. Darrow avenue should be macadamized from Fourth street to Seventh street. This is particularly important as the fire house is located at the head of this street. Sidewalks should also be laid on this avenue and Essex street as soon as the new school building, at the corner of Essex street and Darrow avenue is completed.

SEWERS

The sewer system should be extended so as to cover all of the built up section.

These matters and all matters in regard to improvement of streets and sewer extensions should be taken up and decided upon at once, and no ordinance for this character of work should be introduced later than your March meeting, as the work should be begun early in the year and completed not later than the month of October.

LIGHTS AND TREES

I would recommend that the committee having charge of the lights and trees take up the matter of street lamps with the Public Service Corporation and see what can be done to improve the quality of the lights, also if there is any better or more modern system of lighting our streets; and report fully on the subject. One thing I would suggest would be to repaint or enamel the reflectors and to replace all partly burnt out lamps with new lamps.

TREES

One of the principal attractions in the city are the trees, and more care and attention should be given to looking after

them. I am very much inclined to the opinion that it would be for the best interests to appoint a tree commission as provided by the law of the State, and which plan has been adopted in several cities with very good results. However, as this is an important matter, before making a definite recommendation I should like to have a consultation with your committee.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

There is a committee of your Honorable Body known as the Public Affairs Committee. The province of this committee, I presume, is to take up and consider all matters of public interest brought to the attention of the Common Council that do not properly come under the supervision of any of the various departments.

While the Mayor and Common Council are not elected to look after anyone's personal grievances, while they are not in the business of supplying public utilities, I feel it is our duty to look up, investigate and correct any public matter that affects the citizens of this city as a whole. The city has granted in the past valuable franchises to the various public utility corporations: gas, electric light, electric railroads, telephones, etc. It is our duty to see that all these various corporations live up to their contracts and the citizens and tax payers receive from them what they have agreed to deliver both in quality and in services at fair and equitable rates. While we are not in the business of supplying ice, coal, lumber or any other necessity of this kind, while we have no right to interfere with anyone's legitimate business, if we find that combinations are being made against the interests of our people, it is our business to investigate the matter and if these combinations are contrary to law to bring the matter to the attention of the proper authorities and have it corrected.

Let the people know the men they have elected to conduct the affairs of this city, stand ready to protect their interest and secure for them their just rights in all public matters as far as the powers conferred upon them will allow, and we will have no need for any protective associations.

CITY HALL

The time has now arrived when the city of Plainfield should have a Public Building of its own. A proper lot should be se-

cured and a City Hall built that will accommodate all city officers, court rooms, city jail, police station and Council room. This matter grows more and more important each and every year. Your Public Affairs Committee could not undertake any matter that in the end would prove to be a more lasting benefit to our city.

LICENSES

The ordinance in regard to saloon and hotel licenses should be carefully examined to see that it agrees in all important parts with the State law, 1906.

I would recommend you make public that it is not the policy of this administration to increase the number of saloons, or amend in any way the present districting ordinance.

In regard to hack and peddler licenses I recommend Section 1 of the ordinance be amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. That the Mayor of the said city is hereby authorized to grant licenses under his hand and the seal of the city to so many and to such persons as he shall think proper, of good moral character, and otherwise qualified according to the provisions of this ordinance, and to incorporated companies, to carry on," etc., concluding in the original ordinance.

My reason for this is that as the ordinance now reads all these licenses must be granted by the Common Council, and in many cases this holds up an applicant for several weeks, or as has been the practice during the last few years he is allowed to work without a license contrary to the ordinance until the Council meets.

Another amendment should be made in regard to theatre licenses. The present ordinance only provides for a fee of \$50.00 a year and after once issued gives the city no authority as to the class of plays to be given.

CONSOLIDATION

One of the problems before us, and perhaps one of the most important ones, is the proposed consolidation of the city of Plainfield with the Borough of North Plainfield. This subject is one which has not been deeply studied by our citizens, yet we are all conscious of the fact that it is before us and from time to time

movements are made in the direction of consolidation. Furthermore we cannot lose sight of the fact that in considering many public questions the problem of consolidation presents itself as one which, if solved, might enable us to put into operation important policies concerning the welfare of this community.

In view of geographical conditions it seems plain that it is only a question of time when these two places must be joined. The growth of the borough follows the natural growth of the city. Nothing but a small brook, which is the dividing county line, intervenes between the two, and this brook runs on a line approximately parallel with Front street and the railroad. The lots on the westerly side of Front street about in the dividing line, and as the borough is limited in its growth in a westerly direction by the Watchung mountains it naturally follows the line of Front street, which means that instead of growing apart we are constantly growing closer together.

No movement should be made to unite these two municipalities except with the consent of the majority of the people in both places. During the past ten years various efforts have been made to change the county line or to effect consolidation. A society has taken the matter up. About four years ago the question of annexation or change of the county line was submitted to the people of the borough and defeated. Since then the movement seems to have taken the form of consolidation; that is, the union of the two local governments without disturbing the county line. During the past year, the City Council and the Borough Council have appointed committees which have recommended to the governing bodies the appointment of a commission to consider this subject and to formulate a plan of consolidation. It is my purpose, provided the Mayor of the Borough is in accord, to suggest a conference on this subject, to be held at the call of the two Mayors, at which conference various citizens might be asked to be present, and discuss the question in all its bearings. Such a discussion could not result otherwise than in adding to our knowledge of this subject and it is quite likely to result in a co-operative effort on the part of the city and borough to put before the people in a special election a reasonable plan of consolidation.

If it is to the interests of the people of Plainfield to have municipal ownership of the water supply it is plain that the people of the Borough would derive equal benefits and should be equally interested. Furthermore, as there are about one-third as many people in the borough as in the city a union of the two might make it possible to install a system of water works on lines more favorable to the tax payers and easier of accomplishment than were the city to take up the question alone.

A sewerage system for the borough is now under consideration and some negotiations have passed between the city and borough on this subject. Obviously it would not do for us to grant to any other town or people the right to use our sewer property except with a qualifying clause that would warrant us in annulling the contract provided it should at any time be found necessary or advantageous to do so in order to provide for the disposal of our own sewage matter. The disposal property, so far as we can see at present, is large enough for both city and borough, but we cannot foresee the future. Were the city and borough joined it would be an easy matter to provide at an early date for the disposal of the borough sewage, and if later on it might be found desirable or necessary to get more room in the sewer beds the co-operation of the Greater City might warrant the abandonment of the present site and the construction of a main leading to a more distant locality.

With consolidation the excise question would be simplified, because all saloon licenses would be subject to the control of one local governing body and conditions on both sides of the brook would then be the same. Equally beneficial to the welfare of the community would be a single public school system, especially in the High School grades. Police regulations would be improved and the important subject of public health would obviously be in better hands if there were one health board subject to one code of rules and with authority to act for the entire community.

TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS

The interests of the property owners and tax payers of our city demand that this matter should be fully investigated.

A great step in advance has been made in the state of New Jersey by the enactment of the tax laws of 1906, and, as time goes on, the benefits to be derived will become more and more apparent to the tax payer.

The County Board of Taxes in Union County has already made a name as one of the best in the State. This board, however, is not an initiative body. They act after the assessments are made and the assessors turn over their books, and then do their best to rectify errors and equalize the assessments in all cases called to their attention. Each municipality elects or appoints its own assessors. In Plainfield the members of the Board of Assessors are appointed by the Mayor with the consent and approval of the Common Council, once in three years. The term of office of the members of the present board in Plainfield will expire January 1, 1908.

There has been a great deal of criticism in regard to the inequality of the assessment in certain parts of our city. This may be just or unjust. A number of appeals were made to the county board. In some cases the assessments were lowered and in some cases raised. As the Mayor and Common Council are responsible for the appointment of the assessors, I consider it our duty to the tax payers to know for a certainty that they are performing their duties fairly and justly to all, and assist the authorities as far as possible in determining this fact. Property must be assessed not only at its true value, but equally.

I recommend and request your Honorable Body to appoint a committee from your members to assist me in making a full investigation into this very important matter, and determining for ourselves that our appointees are doing their full duty in the interest of the tax payers in our city.

WATER

The most important question to be considered and fully investigated is the municipal ownership of the city water supply.

Plainfield is now furnished with water for fire and domestic purposes by the Plainfield Water Supply Co., under a contract which has several years yet to run. It is thought by many

of our citizens that a city with the population of Plainfield (nearly 20,000 and growing), should own and control its own water supply.

I have agreed with the voters and all the inhabitants that this matter will be fully and thoroughly investigated and the report of the results of such investigation made public so that every one will have full and complete information on the subject; then that the proper action will be taken to have the matter brought before the voters at an election held for that purpose and let the people decide the question for themselves.

An exhaustive and thorough investigation of such an important question as this will take several months, and will call for a great deal of hard work by the committee undertaking it. There will be financial questions, legal questions, engineering problems and questions of policy to be worked out and decided and put into a concise and definite shape.

I propose with your approval and consent to form a special committee for this purpose to be known as the Water Investigation Committee. The committee to consist of three members of the Common Council, eight citizens of Plainfield to be selected by the Mayor, also that the Mayor of the Borough of North Plainfield and two other citizens from the Borough be invited to act with us. The above with the Mayor of Plainfield ex-officio will make a committee of fifteen. The expenses of the investigation cannot be fully estimated at present, but I request and recommend you pass a resolution, setting aside out of any unappropriated funds an amount not to exceed \$2,500, to be used to defray the expenses, also to authorize this committee to secure such expert advisors as in their judgment may be required. I also request your Honorable Body to appoint by resolution three members from the Common Council to act on the committee.

My reason for inviting a representation from the Borough of North Plainfield, is that I feel on all important matters, and especially on the question of water supply, we should act together as one community and protect each other's interest.

HEALTH

I recommend the members of Common Council and all citizens interested in the welfare of the city to carefully examine the annual report of the Health Office. This report goes fully into details in regard to the work of the Board of Health for the year.

We are to be congratulated that in this department the city has the services of a Health Officer and Inspector whose sole interest is to work for the benefit and welfare of the city. The report shows that the city is now and has been during the past year remarkably free from all communicable disease. Our death rate is comparatively very low.

If any citizen has a complaint or knows of any nuisance or anything that he or she considers a detriment to health, I suggest that they communicate with the Health Officer, and I assure you that the matter will receive prompt and full investigation. The most important matter in this connection and one that must receive prompt attention from your Honorable Body is the collection and disposal of garbage and ashes. I particularly request and urge the Common Council to take up this matter in serious earnestness and through your proper committee in connection with the Board of Health devise some system that will at once remedy and correct this not only great and disagreeable nuisance, but the greatest menace to the health of our inhabitants in the city at this time.

SCHOOLS

Our system of public schools is a great credit to our city and one we may well be proud of. There is no one institution that does more to build up a city and attract new residents than a good system of education.

Plainfield is known as School District No. 1, being the first to take up this very important matter in the State. The superintendent's report shows:

Enrollments	3,025
Average membership	2,438
Average attendance	2,283
Number of teachers	80

The pupils range from four years of age to nineteen years, and are distributed in eight school buildings :

High School—Ninth street, Arlington avenue.

Stillman School—Fifth street, Arlington avenue.

Whittier School—Fifth street, Madison avenue.

Franklin School—Fourth street, Arlington avenue.

Washington School—Fifth street and Liberty.

Irving School—Fourth street, Monroe avenue.

Bryant School—Sixth street, near Richmond.

Lincoln School—Second and Berckman streets.

Supt. Maxson, in his report to the Board of Education says, "While we have been directing our efforts toward putting the High School in a good working basis, the lower schools have gone on increasing until they have outgrown even the new accommodations provided by the transfer of the High School. I feel it necessary, therefore, to urge an early consideration of the question of new accommodations to relieve this crowding and to provide for future growth." He also states that every school room in the city is now occupied except one in the Lincoln school, and that there is still crowding in the Washington and Irving schools, where there are four rooms that are each occupied by two classes.

In order to relieve this situation and provide for the growth in the immediate future, the Board of Education decided to dispose of the Washington school, which for a long time they have known was undesirable and unfitted for school use, and to replace it by a new modern school building of ten or twelve rooms, located at the corner of Darrow avenue and Essex street, about midway between the Irving and Franklin schools.

I have looked carefully into this matter and consider that the Board have acted wisely and used excellent judgment. The matter will be brought before the Council in the regular way through the Board of Estimate at an early date for your consideration and approval, and I recommend that you give it prompt and favorable consideration.

With the rapid growth of our city in the west end north of the railroad, the time is practically at hand when another

building will be required in this section near Clinton avenue, and I feel strongly it is wise to secure a site and build this building at the same time that the building, corner of Essex street and Darrow avenue, is being erected.

I also urge and seriously recommend that even at an additional cost that this proposed new building and all future school buildings be of fireproof construction.

While it is important that our schools should be amply equipped with buildings and apparatus, it is still more important that we should have teachers of the highest quality in character and ability. As a business man I know that character and ability cannot be obtained for nothing, and I have been interested to find out whether we are paying our teachers adequate salaries. From my inquiries I am convinced that the Board of Education ought to increase the salaries very substantially. The cost of living has largely increased within a few years, and the business world is giving general recognition to this fact by raising salaries as is shown by the action of the directors of one corporation after another. The teacher ought to receive similar recognition and share in the general prosperity.

I have also taken pains to find out what kind of men and women are now in our school rooms, and I have no hesitation in saying that with their character, education and ability, practically every one of them would now be making much more money if they had fitted themselves as nurses or typewriters or gone into other business pursuits.

If further testimony is needed I may say that other cities like East Orange, Montclair, Passaic and Bayonne, to say nothing of the larger cities, Newark, Paterson, Jersey City, are paying from \$150 to \$300 more than we are.

In connection with my suggestion that a liberal increase should be made this year, I would call attention to the fact that the new State taxation law will add nearly \$2,000,000 to the State school fund. Plainfield's share of this increase ought to be \$10,000. If a good portion of this should be used by the Board of Education for salaries, probably every teacher could receive an increase of 15 per cent. without affecting our taxation rate. I strongly recommend the Board to take such action.

HOSPITAL

The Muhlenberg Hospital, although a private corporation supported in part by charitable contributions, is an institution that is of the greatest benefit in our community. Outside of Elizabeth this is the only hospital in the county. Under the provisions of the constitutions the Mayor, ex-officio, is a member of the Board of Governors and represents the city and tax payers. While all patients that are able to pay either in the wards or private rooms are charged in accordance with accommodations given and services rendered, all that cannot pay are treated and cared for free. No public institution or city hospital could do more.

By a statute of the State of New Jersey, a city is authorized to levy a small tax for the maintenance of a hospital supported in whole or in part by voluntary contributions, after first submitting the question to the legal voters of the city.

I strongly recommend and urgently request your Honorable Body to take the necessary action as requested under the statute to bring this matter before the people for their decision.

FINANCES

A careful examination of the Treasurer's report shows that the finances of the city are in excellent condition:

Cash on hand.

General fund	\$ 45 373 92
Fire fund	739 93
	<hr/>
	\$ 46 113 85

Against which there is one outstanding note	\$ 5 000 00
	<hr/>

Balance	\$ 41 113 85
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1906 Taxes Uncollected.

General fund	\$ 37 683 46
Fire fund	5 562 24
	<hr/>
	\$ 43 245 70

The bonded debt of the city is as shown above, \$378,000, less than 2 per cent. of the assessed valuation, and this is being reduced each year by the provision which requires the retirement of a certain amount of bonds.

I feel that certain important improvements referred to under various heads should be taken up at once, and that it would be better judgment, more economical, more benefit to the city and less strain on the tax payers to issue a reasonable amount of bonds running over a term of years, a certain amount redeemable each year, and complete and carry out important improvements than to do a little now and then and never really secure any permanent result.

In the purchasing of supplies, I recommend that the Council by resolution direct that for all purchases or contracts made in any department in excess of \$25.00, the committee secure at least three bids. Also that all orders must be written and countersigned by a member of committee. These orders to be attached to and returned with the bills or invoice.

All city officials, heads of departments, clerks and other employees as far as I am able to determine are faithful and efficient, but it should be emphatically understood that only strict attention to duty—efficiency—and loyalty to the interests and welfare of tax payers and citizens will help to retain a position or secure advancement, also that every new appointment, police officer, fireman, clerk or other employee will be made absolutely on the merits and qualifications of the applicant to fill the position without any regard to political or other outside influence.

PAYMENT OF BILLS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY

The statute requires that all bills or other claims against the city must be approved by the Mayor for payment before presentation to the Common Council. I request that you direct the City Clerk to furnish me with a certified copy of all salaries and payrolls. Also have it distinctly understood with your respective committees that all other claims must be certified to by the proper committees as correct and come to the Mayor's office with proper vouchers attached before they will receive attention or approval.

Assuring the members of your Honorable Body of my hearty co-operation and assistance as far as it lies within my power.

CHARLES J. FISK,
Mayor of the City of Plainfield.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1906

GENERAL FUND

January 1, 1906, balance on hand:

General Fund\$ 49,713 74

Balance on account
of High School

Bonds 1,917 31

Street Improve-
ment 3,495 16

Martin Act Taxes,
1900 150 63

Martin Act Taxes,
1901 35 31

Martin Act Taxes,
1902 14 62

Martin Act Taxes,
1903 210 26

Martin Act Taxes,
1904 214 17

Martin Act Taxes,
1905 109 60

Trust Fund (Mar-
tin Act) 1,492 54

Storm Sewer Rich-
mond street 3,236 76

.....\$ 60,590 10

RECEIPTS.

State School and County Taxes.

Prior to 1904\$ 88 65

For year 1904 428 86

For year 1905 10,362 43

For year 1906 61,124 64

.....\$ 72,004 58

City Taxes, Including Polls, Dogs, Snow

and Ice and Contingent Fund.

Prior to year 1904 ...\$ 92 41

For year 1904 556 88

For year 1905 11,328 07

For year 1906 66,215 45

.....\$ 78,192 81

Amount of Taxes Collected not

included in City Tax 96 03

Martin Act Taxes.

Sale of 1900.....\$ 600 36

Sale of 1901 11 90

Sale of 1904 19 51

Sale of 1905 220 14

..... 851 91

Franchise Tax.

Plainfield Water Sup-
ply Company\$ 1,263 05

Public Service Corpor-
ation (Gas and

Electric Light) 1,890 75

N. Y. and N. J. Tele-
phone Company ... 430 38

..... 3,584 18

Flagging and Curbing 606 75

Widening Park Avenue, Steb-
bins Place and Sycamore St.. 1,302 73

Property sold—Amount receiv-
ed over and above city's

claim 38 32

DISBURSEMENTS.

Streets.

Macadamizing, Grad-
ing, Turnpiking ...\$ 14,275 99

General Cleaning ... 4,232 17

Cleaning brooks and
ditches 686 47

Culverts 435 45

Crosswalks 786 16

Storm Sewers 2,824 57

Storm Sewer in Rich-
mond Street 3,236 76

Cleaning culverts and
catch basins 306 28

Removing Snow from
Streets 339 02

Removing Trees and
Limbs 17 66

Street Sprinkling ... 6,002 10

Tools and Supplies .. 410 96

Steam Roller, repairs
and supplies 556 83

Repairs to macadam-
izing sprinkler 15 94

Repairs to Street
Scraper 22 00

Assistants 1,449 27

Blacksmithing 51 75

City Yard 13 04

Street Signs 29 51

.....\$ 35,691 93

Sewer Maintenance.

Salary, Engineer\$ 1,200 00

Salary, Day Operator 960 00

Salary, Night Opera-
tor 540 00

Labor at Disposal
Works 154 20

Tools and Supplies .. 266 19

Water Guarantee,
Disposal Works .. 73 20

Inspecting, testing
and flushing sewers 734 87

Insurance and repair
of buildings 61 57

Inspecting construc-
tion of sewer con-
nections 160 45

Inverted siphon un-
der Cedar Brook .. 196 22

Telephone 12 00

Extending sewer con-
nections, Elm place 27 84

Analysis 23 05

Repairing and clean-
ing sewers and ap-
purtenances 159 49

..... 4,569 08

Interest.				Police.	
Accrued on School Bonds	\$ 57 76			Regular Police	\$ 19,212 61
Flagging and Curbing Assessment ...	22 30			Special Police	75 75
Penalties on City Taxes	1,990 32			Miscellaneous Expenses	455 05
Bank interest on balance	935 44	3,005 82		Headquarters' Supplies	263 78
				Keep of horse	175 97
				N. Y. and N. J. Telephone Company ...	10 55
				Rent of Headquarters	700 00
				Hack Hire	53 50
				Y. M. C. Association	75 00
				Bicycles' Repairs ...	168 65
				Care Alarm System.	400 00
				Police Equipments..	14 86
					\$ 21,605 72
Licenses.				Salaries.	
Liquor	\$ 11,848 75			City Clerk	\$ 1,200 00
Hack, Peddler, Show, etc.	1,732 00			City Treasurer	900 00
Advertising	66 00			City Collector	2,250 00
New Street Sewer...	25 00			Street Commissioner.	1,500 00
Public Service Corporation	5,521 28	19,193 03		Janitor	300 00
				Inspector of Buildings	500 00
				Stenographer	400 00
				City Judge	600 00
				Corporation Counsel.	2,000 00
				Custodian of School Moneys	550 00
				Mayor	300 00
					\$ 10,500 00
Fines.				Board of Assessors.	
Police	\$ 20 00			First Ward	\$ 400 00
City Judge	511 50	531 50		Second Ward	400 00
				Third Ward	400 00
				Fourth Ward	400 00
				Assessors' Expenses.	174 72
				Assessors' Clerk	720 00
					12,994 72
Streets.				Lights and Trees.	
Public Service Corporation, for repair of streets and removing snow	\$ 978 43			Street Lighting	\$ 13,640 30
C. M. Meeker for repairing streets ...	84 60			Tree Trimming	489 20
Property owners on Division Street, for macadamizing	167 40				\$ 14,129 50
Sale of stone, brick, earth, etc.	61 42				
Telephone Company.	6 51				
Use of Street Sprinkler	11 00				
Repair of sewer ditches	20 81	1,330 17			
Sewer Maintenance.				State School and County Taxes.	
Sewer connection permits	\$ 262 00			State School	\$ 19,488 11
Sale of cans and tile.	12 88			County Taxes	58,694 93
Amount received in lieu of assessment.	17 50	292 38			78,183 04
Board of Health.				Permanent Street Improvement.	
Fines, fees, etc.	985 67			New work year 1906.	\$ 3,650 00
				Commissioners	106 00
				Interest on Bonds ..	868 50
				Bonds paid off	14,000 00
					18,624 50
District Court.				Transfers.	
Fines, etc.	531 50			To Fire Fund	\$ 12,000 00
Railroad and Canal Tax	1,171 02			To Poor Fund	2,900 00
					14,900 00
Transfers.				Martin Act Expenses.	
From Fire Fund	\$ 12,000 00			Recording tax, 1900..	\$ 8 83
From Poor Fund	2,900 00	14,900 00		Recording tax, 1905..	3 92
					12 75
				Trust Fund (Martin Act Taxes)	110 50

Rent received from City Property	\$ 42 00
Bill of Police Department not used	2 00
Premium on School Furnishing Bonds	178 75
High School Bonds sold	13,000 00
Tax Searches	192 00
Tax Releases on tax certificates	135 60

Permanent Street Improvement.

Assessments Collected	\$ 11,583 50
Bank Interest on Balance	98 06
Bonds Issued	5,000 00
	<u>16,681 56</u>

District Court.	
Judge	\$ 700 00
Clerk	350 00
Expenses	176 96
Printing and Stationery	1,226 96
Election	3,002 05
Rent of City Offices	135 00
Excess Levy Taxes returned:	1,100 00
William Camp	\$ 15 50
Walter L. Hetfield.	3 92
Jos. W. Reinhart ..	54 07
W. D. Woolverton.	6 20
Home Real Estate Company	17 70
Board of Health	97 39
South Side Sewer	5,000 00
Removing Flag Pole	165 87
Expenses of Police Trial	35 00
Care of City Dumping Ground.	1,102 25
Office Furniture and Repairs.	300 00
Miscellaneous Expenses	148 75
Removing Snow and Ice	263 41
Care of Town Clock	304 17
Typewriting Machine	17 00
Legislative Bills	100 00
Legal Expenses	25 00
Collector's Expenses	83 37
Auditor	131 75
Memorial Day	300 00
Care of City Maps	100 00
Care of City Park	100 00
Repairing Drinking Fountain.	200 00
Repairing and Storing Voting Machines	14 64
Recording Tax Sales	113 45
Flagging and Curbing	59 85
Widening Park Avenue, Stebbins Place and Sycamore St.	746 51
Proceeds Sale of School Bonds paid to Custodian	2,575 56
Crematory Bond Paid	13,178 75
Interest on Crematory Bonds.	700 00
Interest Coupons on School Bonds	52 50
Balance on hand, December 31, 1906:	5,440 00
General Fund	\$ 45,373 92
Amount received on sale of bonds for new High School in excess of estimate	1,917 31
Street Improvement	1,552 22
Martin Act Taxes.	
Sale of 1900	\$ 742 16
Sale of 1901	47 21
Sale of 1902	14 62
Sale of 1903	210 36
Sale of 1904	233 68
Sale of 1905	325 82
Martin Act Trust Fund	1,573 75
	<u>1,382 04</u>
\$289,440 21	\$289,440 21

SUMMARY—General Fund

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Cash on hand	\$ 45,373 92	Crematory Bonds	\$ 700 00
Cash on hand—excess sale of bonds	1,917 31	Excess sale school bonds	1,917 31
Uncollected taxes, 1906	37,683 46	Balance	83,325 25
Uncollected assessments, Flagging and curbing	967 87		
	<u>\$ 85,942 56</u>		<u>\$ 85,942 56</u>
Uncollected taxes, 1882-1905 inclusive, collection doubtful..	\$ 44,977 75		
Martin Act Taxes Uncollected:			
Sale of 1900	\$ 2,714 08		
Sale of 1901	69 52		
Sale of 1902	102 19		
Sale of 1903	31 82		
Sale of 1904	17 27		
Sale of 1905	324 28		
	<u>\$ 3,259 16</u>		
Representing property purchased-in by the city.			

SUMMARY—Street Improvement

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Cash on hand	\$ 1,552 22	Outstanding Bonds	\$ 10,000 00
Assessments to be collected and uncompleted work	8,447 78		
	<u>\$ 10,000 00</u>		<u>\$ 10,000 00</u>
New High School Bonds Outstanding	\$136,000 00		

FIRE DEPARTMENT

January 1, 1906:

Balance\$ 769 87

RECEIPTS.

Transfers from General Fund.\$ 12,000 00

Bills Payable 16,000 00

Bank Interest 14 51

Taxes Collected:

Prior to 1904\$ 32 58

Year 1904 166 84

Year 1905 4,122 11

Year 1906 20,034 15

24,355 68\$ 53,140 06**DISBURSEMENTS.**

Salaries\$ 12,925 97

Repairs to Buildings 770 33

Repairs to Apparatus 893 01

Supplies 769 82

Keep of horses 2,133 98

Rent of Lot 30 00

Rent of Team and Wagon 339 00

Laundry 208 55

Fuel 475 42

Care of Fire Alarm System and

One New Box 1,040 01

Printing and Stationery 73 20

Incidentals 363 88

Equipments (1,000 feet of hose) 1,365 30

Hydrant rentals 4,831 25

Interest 180 41

\$ 26,400 13

Bills Payable 14,000 00

Transfers to General Fund ... 12,000 00

Balance on hand December 31,

1906 739 93

\$ 53,140 06**SUMMARY—Fire Department****ASSETS.**

Cash on hand\$ 739 93

Uncollected taxes, 1906 5,562 24

\$ 6,302 17

Uncollected taxes, 1888-1905,

Collection Doubtful\$ 4,048 07

LIABILITIES.

Bills Payable\$ 5,000 00

Balance 1,302 17

\$ 6,302 17**Real Estate and Equipment Valuation.**

Headquarters—Real Estate Valuation\$ 13,405 52

West Second Street—Real Estate Valuation 9,550 00

West Fourth Street—Real Estate Valuation 5,462 87

\$ 28,418 39

Equipment and Personal Property 22,176 00

Fire Alarm System (Cost) 8,654 58

\$ 59,248 97

POOR FUND

January 1, 1906:
Balance on hand\$ 10 57

RECEIPTS.

Transfers from General Fund..	2,900 00
Bills Payable	3,900 00
Taxes Collected:	
Prior to 1904	\$ 8 01
For the year 1904..	46 53
For the year 1905..	1,154 72
For the year 1906..	5,110 75
	<u>6,320 01</u>

DISBURSEMENTS.**Industrial Home Expenses.**

Salary: Superintend-	
ent and Matron ...\$	360 00
Food and Provisions	1,478 65
Fuel	441 75
Sundries and sup-	
plies	345 07
Water Rental	27 00
Burials	30 00
Clothing	190 16
Services	113 25
Repairs on Buildings	487 08
	<u>\$ 3,472 96</u>

Outside-Poor Expenses.

Food and Provisions.\$	305 65
Rents	520 57
Fuel	30 40
Burials	80 00
Board and Care	511 65
Examinations of In-	
sane	65 70
Transportation	62 15
Sundries and sup-	
plies	17 05
Care Cemetery Lot..	10 00
	<u>1,603 17</u>
Salary of the Overseer	600 00
Salary of City Physician	365 00
Stationery	3 30
Muhlenberg Hospital	1,000 00
Medicines	100 00
Artificial Leg	30 00
Telephone	24 50
Interest	8 34
Transfers to General Fund ...	2,900 00
Bills Payable	2,900 00
Balance on hand December 31,	
1906	123 31
	<u>\$ 13,130 58</u>

\$ 13,130 58

\$ 13,130 58

SUMMARY—Poor Fund**ASSETS.**

Cash on hand	\$ 123 31
Uncollected taxes, 1906	1,418 94
	<u>\$ 1,542 25</u>

LIABILITIES.

Bills Payable	\$ 1,000 00
Balance	542 25
	<u>\$ 1,542 25</u>

Uncollected taxes, 1891-1905, in-
clusive, collection doubtful ..\$ 564 07

LIBRARY FUND

January 1, 1906:

Balance\$ 3,682 96

RECEIPTS.

Taxes collected:

Prior to 1904\$ 7 93

Year 1904 30 73

Year 1905 822 97

Year 1906 4,087 61

4,949 24

Bank Interest 35 37

Library Directors 170 84

\$ 8,838 41**DISBURSEMENTS.**

Expenses, paid by warrants

drawn on the City Treasurer.\$ 5,181 99

Balance 3,656 42

\$ 8,838 41**SUMMARY—Library Fund****ASSETS.**

Cash on hand\$ 3,656 42

Uncollected taxes, 1906 1,136 14

\$ 4,792 56Uncollected taxes, 1891 to 1905,
inclusive, collection doubtful.\$ 490 09**LIABILITIES.**

Balance\$ 4,792 56

\$ 4,792 56**SEWER BOND AND INTEREST ACCOUNT**

January 1, 1906:

Balance\$ 10,100 99

M. Honan & Sons 115 40

Sewer Improvement 800 05

Sewer Extension 841 78

\$ 11,858 22**RECEIPTS.****Taxes Collected, Sewer Bonds**

Prior to 1904\$ 8 24

Year 1904 40 11

Year 1905 989 41

Year 1906 3,270 89

4,308 65

Taxes Collected, Sewer Interest.

Prior to 1904\$ 9 18

Year 1904 52 77

Year 1905 1,319 99

Year 1906 6,541 78

7,923 72

Bank Interest on balance 223 21

Sewer Improvement, Bills Pay-

able 15,500 00

Riding Club 36 80

Sewer Extension, Bills Payable 10,200 00

Assessments Collected 7,621 36

Bank Interest 36 98

\$ 57,708 94**DISBURSEMENTS.**

Sewer Bonds Nos. 37, 38, 39 and

40\$ 4,000 00

Interest:

Coupons on bonds..\$ 5,160 00

Interest on Notes . 3,767 09

8,927 09

M. Honan & Son 115 40

Sewer Improvement—Work on

Septic Tanks 16,299 97

Sewer Extensions—Bills Paya-

ble 7,500 00

Sewer Extension Expense—

Cost of Work 631 17

Sewer Extension Expense—

Cost of Work, 1906 9,526 35

\$ 46,999 98Balance on hand December 31,
1906:

Sewer Bond and Interest Ac-

count\$ 9,629 48

Sewer Improvement 36 88

Sewer Extension 1,042 60

\$ 57,708 94

SUMMARY—Sewer Bond and Interest Account

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.
Cash on hand:	Sewer Bonds Outstanding .....\$125,000 00
Sewer Bond and Interest Account\$ 9,629 48	Bills Payable, Sewer Improvement 54,500 00
Sewer Improvement 36 88	Sewer Extension 13,500 00
Sewer Extension 1,042 60	Sewer Extension, work 1906 .. 10,200 00
Sewer Plant as carried on books 171,183 45	Surplus created by payment of bonds Nos. 1 to 40 40,000 00
Sewer Extension as carried on books 12,993 19	Balance 18,436 20
Sewer Improvement as carried on books 54,499 92	
Sewer Extension, 1906, uncompleted 9,526 35	
Uncollected taxes:	
Sewer Interest, year 1906....\$ 1,816 22	
Sewer Bonds, year 1906..... 908 11	
<u>\$261,636 20</u>	<u>\$261,636 20</u>
Uncollected Taxes, Sewer Interest, 1896 to 1905, collection doubtful\$ 451 28	
Uncollected Taxes, Sewer Bonds, 1897 to 1905, collection doubtful 333 01	

Respectfully submitted,

WM. F. ARNOLD,

City Treasurer.

Dated December, 28, 1906.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SEWERS

Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 28, 1906

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Plainfield:

We submit herewith our annual report of work done and moneys received and expended on streets and sewers during the year 1906.

PERMANENT PAVEMENT.

Owing to the large amount of general work requiring attention this year, your committee has been unable to use any part of the street appropriation for permanent pavements. A committee report was received by the Common Council from the Board of Trade, in which the suggestion was made that the sum of \$5,000 be set aside each year for the purpose of constructing a section of brick, bitulithic or wood pavement, and that a part of the cost should be assessed upon the property owners. The latter suggestion was not received favorably by the majority of the Board of Trade, so the report was submitted to the Common Council without recommendation on this point.

NEW MACADAMIZING.

Division street was macadamized by subscription between West Sixth and West Seventh streets, the owners paying \$167.40; the block between West Fifth and West Sixth streets was done by contract. This contract includes Park terrace, Berkeley avenue between Park terrace and Leland avenue, Webster place south of Putnam avenue, Berckman street between South avenue and East Seventh street, Richmond street, between Putnam and Watchung avenues, Kensington avenue between Watchung and Prospect avenues and John street. Owing to the late start and early frost, this contract has not been completed.

The committee has paid \$2,001.54 from the year's appropriation as a part of the assessment against the city for macadamizing under the contract completed last winter, leaving \$2,243.74 still unpaid. The assessment for the work now under construction will probably be made during the coming year, requiring an additional draft on the appropriation for 1907.

A part of the city force, including the steam roller, has been employed in finishing streets done by contract, but the cost of this work has been paid by the contractor; it is included in the amounts shown on the schedule for those streets.

The prices for macadamizing are higher this year than ever before, running from 90 cents to \$1.10 per lineal foot for macadam 16 feet wide.

STREET REPAIRS.

The following macadamized streets have been resurfaced during the year:

Park avenue from Randolph road nearly to Cedar brook, also between Front and Fourth streets; East Front street between Park and Watchung avenues; Watchung avenue between Front and Fifth streets; East Fifth street between Watchung avenue and Richmond streets; Richmond street, part, between Fifth and Seventh streets; South avenue between Belvidere avenue and Richmond street; Grant avenue, between Eighth street and Sherman avenue; West Front street.

On East Fifth street, Watchung avenue and parts of East and West Front streets, new tracks were laid by the Street Railway Company, necessitating a large amount of street resurfacing, the part of the street between the rails and eighteen inches on each side being paid for by the company. These streets are now in excellent condition, and as the track is well ballasted with trap rock, there is good reason to believe that the tearing up of the streets to repair tracks will now be infrequent.

SLAG STREETS.

All the slag produced by the Pond Machine Tool Works, has, by kind permission of the company, been placed upon the streets at the west end of the city. Clinton avenue and Mariners place, between Front street and Dunellen avenue, have been completed and nearly all of Evona avenue. It is recommended that the next work be done on Clinton avenue, south of Third street, and on Third street, connecting Clinton and Evona avenues.

The application of slag to the sandy streets in this section of the city results in a good firm roadway, and prevents the washing away of the sand. Considerable work is required every year in repairing damage caused by the washing away of the sand, especially on West Third street west of Monroe avenue.

GRADING.

In connection with the improvement of the Cole property east of Leland avenue, it became necessary to lower the street railway track and grade a portion of Leland avenue in accordance with the established grade; further grading is needed on this street, particularly between Front and Second streets.

On East Sixth street, east of Richmond street, flag and curb were laid, requiring the grading of the roadway. The work of grading Central street has been continued this year, and the remaining work can be done at moderate cost.

Grading has also been done on the following streets; West End

avenue, Stebbins place extension, Cottage place, East Fourth street, Ravine road and on Sycamore street where widened.

The erection of a new concrete bridge over Green brook at West End avenue necessitates a large amount of grading on the approach, also the construction of about two hundred feet of 18 inch storm sewer.

TARRED STREETS.

East Front street, between Richmond and Berckman streets and West Ninth street between College place and Arlington avenue, have been treated with "Tarvia," a grade of tar adapted for this purpose. Streets on which it is used promise to be less dusty than plain macadam, less liable to "ravel" and they have an agreeable surface for driving. It should, however, be swept regularly, and a light coating of "Tarvia" should be applied after a year's use.

CURBING AND FLAGGING.

During the year, 9,626 lineal feet of curbing and 14,074 lineal feet of flagging have been laid. A large proportion of the flagging ordered was laid by the city, the owners having failed to comply with the notices served. But a large amount of curb and flagging were laid voluntarily. Requests have been received that New street, John street, Spooner avenue and portions of East Seventh street be flagged during the coming year.

A considerable amount of concrete sidewalks have been laid during the year, both as new work and for replacing flag walks; concrete slabs are also being used quite extensively, the amended ordinance permitting their use.

CULVERTS AND CROSS-WALKS.

The usual work of repairing and replacing old culverts and crosswalks and of constructing new ones has been continued during the year. As far as possible, heavy, square-edged stones of hard, North River blue-stone have been used for crosswalks and iron covers for culverts. When these become more general throughout the city, the annoying breakages will be a thing of the past.

STORM SEWERS.

The year 1906 has been free from violent storms, and no damage has been done to the streets by freshets. The section of reinforced concrete storm sewer constructed last year in Richmond street, between East Fifth and East Seventh streets, has kept that part of the street free of storm water, and the extension to North avenue now being built will be of even greater service, as it will drain the depression under the railroad bridge. Storm sewers are needed on a number of other streets, especially where street railway tracks cross the gutter culverts, in which cases but little room is left below the rails for storm water.

The total length of storm sewers is now 4.87 miles.

BROOK OVERFLOWS.

Last winter being a comparatively mild one, some good work was done in clearing out and widening Cedar brook from South avenue to Randolph Road, except where the brook is confined by stone walls. We believe that this work should be continued.

The attempt to secure the co-operation of adjoining county and township authorities in deepening Green brook having failed, it would seem that the city must undertake the work in self-protection, and also continue in the effort to secure the improvement of dams and the construction of sluice-gates where needed. We recommend that this matter be kept before the Council until the overflow of our streets shall be made impossible.

STREET WIDENING AND EXTENSIONS.

The widening of Park avenue on the westerly side, between Second street and the railroad, and of Sycamore street, between Fourth and Fifth street, also the extension of Stebbins place through private property to Fourth street, have been completed. Progress has been made in the voluntary widening of Sycamore street to Sixth street, but it may be necessary to have an assessment made by commissioners to complete this work. Other improvements which are desirable for the public convenience are the widening of East Fourth street at the angle point east of Washington street, and of Madison and Central avenues between Front street and the C. R. R. of N. J.

STREET SPRINKLING.

The cost of street sprinkling, \$6,002.10, made a heavy draft upon the street appropriation, and the expense must continue to increase as more streets are macadamized, if the present system be continued. The service as a whole has been appreciated, but there is room for much improvement in the details of operation. We suggest the employment of a man who shall give us his whole time during the summer to controlling and regulating the sprinkling of streets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the replacing and repair of street railway tracks before referred to, the Public Service Corporation has used about 4,000 tons of trap rock, and the amount paid by the company for removing snow and for repair of tracks was \$978.43. The assessment against the company for macadamizing Monroe avenue was \$409.57.

The following streets are in urgent need of resurfacing: West Third, West Fourth and West Seventh streets and parts of Park avenue.

SEWERS.

The following sewers were constructed this year under contract with Callahan & Chamberlin:

Darrow avenue, North Front street, Park lane, Park terrace, Irving place; Essex street between Spooner avenue and Darrow avenue; Midway avenue between East Third street and Berckman street; East Sixth street, between Richmond street and Central street; Columbia avenue, between Frederick street and Leland avenue; East Seventh street, between Leland avenue and Belvidere avenue; Berckman street, between East Front street and North avenue; East Fourth street from Richmond street 750 feet west; East Second street, from Berckman street to Netherwood avenue; Leland avenue, from Columbia avenue to North avenue.

In addition to these, sewers have been constructed in Denmark road extension and in Dixie lane, two new streets opened by the Plainfield Land and Building Company. In order to save the time required for the adoption of an ordinance and advertising for bids, these sewers were constructed entirely at the expense of the company, the city furnishing only the services of an inspector.

It was hoped to begin work this year on the low level sewer and pumping station, but owing to delays in receiving bids and the difficulty of securing cast iron pipe, the beginning of the work will be delayed until spring. As soon as the pumping station is in operation, a large number of sewers will be called for in the district to be served by this station.

It would be well to decide, early in the year, on the total amount of work to be done during 1907, and have the necessary legal formalities completed in time to begin construction in early summer.

In order to provide a larger water-way in Cedar brook, the sewer crossing the brook at Richmond street near Watchung avenue was lowered and a manhole was constructed at each end of the inverted syphon.

There has been two stoppages of sewers during the year, one caused by roots and the other by defective flush tank. Fifteen house connections have been taken up and relaid on account of the intrusion of roots.

The year having been a dry one, less ground water than usual has entered the sewers; the total flow is now about a million gallons per day, received through 2,613 house connections, 261 of which have been made since last report. The total length of sanitary sewers is now 36.14 miles.

The new septic tanks and contact beds were put in operation on February first, and some improvements have been made to the works during the year, including a 24 inch by-pass around the screen tank for use while cleaning or repairing the latter, and a 15 inch pipe connecting the new tanks with the old contact beds. The material is on hand for constructing baffles in one of the septic tanks, intended to reduce the amount of scum by checking the velocity of flow more gradually.

The whole plant is now in successful operation and is frequently visited by representatives from other places.

The detailed statement of receipts and disbursements for streets and sewers is as follows:

Receipts—Streets.

Appropriation for streets	\$31,000 00
Appropriation for Sycamore street	125 00
Public Service Corporation for repair of streets and removing snow	978 43
C. M. Meeker, for repairing streets	84 60
Property owners on Division street, for macadamizing	167 40
Sale of stone, brick, earth, etc...	61 42
Telephone Company	6 51
Use of street sprinkler	11 00
Repair of sewer ditches	20 81

 \$32,455 17

The sum of \$3,236.76, included in 1905 report of expenditures for storm sewer in Richmond street, and held pending the completion of the first section of said sewer, was paid to contractor during 1906.

Similarly, the sum of \$713.38 is carried over to 1907 for the second section of the sewer.

Disbursements—Streets.

Park avenue	\$ 1,422 49
Washington street	11 59
Berckman street	38 91
Richmond street	185 06
East Front street	511 22
Watchung avenue	373 00
East Second street	73 08
East Third street	19 94
Cottage place	34 69
North avenue	137 66
Johnston avenue	19 54
Jackson avenue	11 38
Netherwood avenue	18 51
Leland avenue	135 08
Fillmore avenue	10 95
Sycamore street	214 51
East Fourth street	39 00
East Fifth street	495 63
East Sixth street	65 73
East Seventh street	78 76
East Ninth street	20 21
Kensington avenue (including assessment)	496 80
Evergreen avenue	20 11
Rahway road	31 21
Hillside avenue	39 52
Belvidere avenue	20 20

Berkeley avenue (including assessment)	296 16
Denmark road	13 10
Ravine road	64 46
Franklin place	28 20
Prospect avenue	31 91
South avenue	2,514 08
Central street	194 42
Randolph road (including assessment)	937 11
West Fourth street	83 42
West Fifth street	38 93
West Sixth street	29 11
West Seventh street	10 10
West Eighth street	18 70
West Ninth street	115 94
Sherman avenue	91 12
Arlington avenue	16 54
Madison avenue	33 50
New street (including assessment)	692 68
Division street	444 20
Plainfield avenue	37 32
Columbia avenue	29 37
Spooner avenue	144 89
John street	15 54
Grant avenue	162 49
Lee place	25 59
Monroe avenue	130 37
Grove street	17 71
Sycamore avenue	21 88
Essex street	14 44
West End avenue	82 55
Mariners place	483 23
Clinton avenue	402 56
West Front street	1,538 08
South Second street	23 70
West Third street	253 70
West Second street	50 17
Stebbins place	47 48
Evona avenue	435 86
Myrtle avenue	22 13
Minor repairs, 28 items	158 47
Total macadamizing, grading and turnpiking	\$14,275 99
General cleaning	4,232 17
Cleaning brooks and ditches ..	686 47
Culverts	435 45
Crosswalks	786 16
Storm sewers	2,824 57
Cleaning culverts and catch basins	306 28
Removing snow from streets ..	339 02
Removing trees and limbs	17 66
Street sprinkling	6,002 10
Tools and supplies	410 96

Steam roller, repairs and supplies	556 83
Repairs to macadamizing sprinkler	15 94
Repairs to street scraper	22 00
Blacksmithing	51 75
Assistants	1,449 27
City yard	13 04
Street signs	29 51

Total disbursements\$32,455 17

The sum of \$3,236.76, included in 1905 report of expenditures for storm sewer in Richmond street, and held pending the completion of the first section of said sewer, was paid to contractor during 1906.

Receipts—Sewers.

Appropriation	\$4,500 00
Sewer connection permits	262 00
Sale of cans and tile	12 88
Amount received in lieu of assessment	17 50
	<hr/>
	\$4,792 38

Disbursements—Sewers.

Salaries, Engineer	\$1,200 00
Day operator	960 00
Night operator	540 00
Labor at disposal works, including cost of 15 inch connection, replacing sludge pipe and drains	154 20

Tools and supplies, including materials for above	266 19
Water guarantee, disposal works	73 20
Water for flushing	579 06
Inspecting and flushing sewers ..	155 81
Insurance and repair of buildings ..	61 57
Inspecting construction of sewer connections	160 45
Inverted siphon under Cedar brook at Richmond street	196 22
Telephone	12 00
Extending sewer connection, Elm place	27 84
Analyses	23 05
Repairing and cleaning sewers and appurtenances	159 49

\$4,569 08

Amount certified to assessors for removing snow and ice from sidewalks	\$ 304 17
Amount charged against property for flagging laid by city	746 51
Amount of contract for construction of sanitary sewers	9,670 05
Of this amount, \$8,777.55 has been paid.	

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM L. GLOAK,
LESLIE M. DANIEL,
CHARLES C. RANDOLPH,
DANIEL F. GINNA,
HERBERT BUXTON,

Committee.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE

Plainfield N. J., Dec. 27, 1906

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Plainfield:

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to submit herewith the following as my seventh annual report, for the year 1906:

Number of arrests for the year..... 635

Composed of	{	Males.....	549
		Females.....	86
Composed as to color,	{	Negro.....	152
		White.....	483

COMPOSED AS TO NATIONALITY

American	302
Afro-American	152
Irish	71
Italian	30
Russian	13
English	13
German	12
Scotch	11
Polish	10
Danish	7
French	3
Greek	3
Hungarian	2
Swedish	2
Austrian	1
Bavarian	1
Belgian	1
Welsh	1
Total	635

Arraigned in City Court 545

Arraigned in Justice Court 90— 635

ARRESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFENCES:

Assault	7
Automobile Law	3
Bicycle Ordinance	2
Burglary	9
Burglary Tools in Possession	1
Demented	2
Disorderly Conduct	230
Drunkenness	118
Drunk and Disorderly	111
Embezzlement	2
Excise Violations	5
False Pretense	1
Forgery	1
Gambling	28
Hack Ordinance	1
Highway Robbery	2
Junk Ordinance	3
Larceny	29
Murder	1
Non-support	1
Peddling Ordinance	11
State School Law	7
Sunday Ordinance	1
Swindling	1
Trespassing on Cars	12
Vagrancy	19
Miscellaneous	27
<hr/>	
Total	635

RESULT OF ARRESTS

Suspended	382
Fined	105
Held for Grand Jury	43
Committed	39
Turned over to other departments	18
Probated	16
Dismissed	13
Held for Juvenile Court	9
Held in Bond	8
Committed to asylum for insane	2
<hr/>	

Total	635
Amount of Fines Collected	\$614 00

Number of reports and complaints of citizens investigated.....	775
Number of doors and windows found open.....	100
Number of dogs and other animals shot.....	46
Number of horses and other animals found, cared for and restored to owners	50
Number of sick and injured persons cared for.....	48
Number of lost children found and restored to parents.....	28
Number of houses looked after, in absence of occupants.....	166
Number of truants looked after by Truant Officer.....	275
Number of street lights reported out by Department.....	905
Number of fire alarms sent in by the Department.....	9

NUMBER OF ARRESTS BY EACH OFFICER; AND NUMBER OF ARRESTS EACH
OFFICER ASSISTED IN MAKING

OFFICER	ARRESTED	ASSISTED
Chief, Kiely	14	2
Sergeant, Frederickson	3	1
Roundsman, Flynn	30	20
Patrolman, McCue	7	0
Patrolman, Saunders	10	0
Patrolman, Myers	10	0
Patrolman, Vanderweg	7	2
Patrolman, Higgins	60	9
Patrolman, McCarthy	115	12
Patrolman, Saffron	5	1
Patrolman, Flynn	26	4
Patrolman, Overbaugh	35	6
Patrolman, McGinley	7	0
Patrolman, Messler	17	3
Patrolman, Kelly	96	2
Patrolman, O'Keeffe	13	6
Patrolman, McKeon	41	8
Patrolman, Payne	25	6
Patrolman, Martin	12	7
Patrolman, Stillwell	10	1
Patrolman, MacDonald	14	1
Patrolman, Dodson	9	1
Patrolman, O'Gorman	13	0
Special Officers	9	0

NUMBER OF REPORTS RECORDED BY THE GAMEWELL SYSTEM AT HEADQUARTERS
BY OFFICERS DURING THEIR TOURS DURING THE YEAR

OFFICER	REPORTS
Patrolman Saunders	3117
Patrolman Myers	3113

Patrolman Vanderweg	3038
Patrolman Higgins	2370
Patrolman Saffron	3118
Patrolman Flynn	2973
Patrolman Overbaugh	2577
Patrolman McGinley	3096
Patrolman Messler	3106
Patrolman Kelly	2823
Patrolman O'Keeffe	3115
Patrolman McKeon	3071
Patrolman Payne	3058
Patrolman Martin	3008
Patrolman Stillwell	3102
Patrolman Dodson	2190
Patrolman MacDonald	1989

Total 48,864

Number of Wagon Calls 398

49,262

OFFICER	Days	Days	Days off	Days or Nights
	off	off	on	each officer
	Duty	Sick	Vacation	was on reserve
Kiely (Chief)	3	0	14	0
Frederickson	15	0	14	0
Flynn (Roundsmen)	25	1	10	0
McCue	8	26	10	0
Saunders	14	1	10	0
Myers	14	0	10	23
Vanderweg	13	11	10	27
Higgins	13	0	10	74
McCarthy	16	3	10	55
Saffron	14	9	10	33
Flynn	12	0	10	48
Overbaugh	13	10	10	56
McGinley	18	10	10	20
Messler	20	6	10	28
Kelly	13	0	10	65
O'Keeffe	12	0	10	26
McKeon	14	0	10	28
Payne	21	0	10	24
Martin	17	31	10	27
Stillwell	14	4	10	25

MacDonald	7	0	7	14
Dodson	6	1	7	20
O'Gorman	3	2	10	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	305	232	115	593
			232	
			305	
			<hr/>	
Total days off duty	652			

The Expenditures per month of the Department have been as follows:

January	\$1,715 10
February	1,664 98
March	1,778 65
April	1,787 13
May	1,682 55
June	2,082 27
July	1,785 81
August	1,699 08
September	2,001 50
October	1,770 17
November	1,528 84
December	2,009 66
	<hr/>
Total	\$21,605 74

(January statement includes two months' salary of Officer Stillwell for salary for the months of November and December, 1905)

The Expenditures of the Department during the year have been as follows:

Regular Police	\$19,212 61
Special Police	75 75
Headquarters Supplies	263 78
Keep of Horse	175 97
Telephone Service (N. Y. & N. J. Tel.)	10 55
Rent of Headquarters	700 00
Hack Hire	53 50
Y. M. C. Assn.	75 00
Bicycle Repairs	168 65
Maintenance of Gamewell System	400 00
Police Equipments	14 86
Miscellaneous Expenses	455 97
	<hr/>
Total	\$21,605 74

I am pleased to state that during the year the city has been comparatively free from crime.

The numerical strength of the Police Department is 22 men:—Chief, Sergeant, Roundsman, Doorman, Driver, and 17 Patrolmen.

During the past few years the city has grown extensively and gives definite promise of rapid increase, so that pressing need is felt for increasing this department in order to protect equally all those who have the right to demand it. The present police station is not suited for police purposes in any way except the location.

I can speak in praise of the officers and men under my command, with few exceptions, for their faithful performance of duty and the loyalty they have shown to me on all occasions.

In conclusion I wish to thank your Honorable Body for the many courtesies extended to me during the past year, and for the co-operation given to me by the Board of Police.

With kindest wishes to every one of your Honorable Body, I beg to remain,

Yours respectfully,

PATRICK S. KIELY, *Chief*

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LIGHTS AND TREES
OF THE PLAINFIELD COMMON COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1906**

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Plainfield:

The Committee on Lights and Trees of the Plainfield Common Council begs to report as follows:

During the year 1906 there have been erected thirteen additional incandescent street lights, of which the location and date of first lighting are given below.

June 1. 3 on Darrow Avenue.

Aug. 6. 2 on Union Street.

Aug. 7. 1 on Denmark Road.

Oct. 26. 1 on East Sixth St. near Richmond St.

Oct. 27. 2 on Rock Avenue.

Oct. 30. 1 on Leland Avenue.

Nov. 1 3 on Prospect Avenue.

This brings the total number of incandescent lights up to 877, the charge for which is \$15.50 each.

There are also two arc lights on East Front Street at the corner of Park and Watchung Avenues, for which the charge is \$100.00 each per year.

The Committee recommends to its successor the erection of two additional arc lights, at the corners of North Avenue and Park and Watchung Avenues, these being important points.

The policemen of the city report at Headquarters such lights as come under their notice which are not lit, and under the contract under which the streets are lit, the city is entitled to a rebate for lights out during the time from dark to midnight. The rebate has been enforced against the lighting company, and though small, has doubtless resulted in greater vigilance on their part in regard to this matter, though there has been but little ground for complaint in this particular.

The work of trimming trees has been continued, and some work has been done in protecting trees from insect pests, chiefly the elm tree beetle, which did considerable damage during the year. It will be almost imperative that this pest be abated by proper action when the young leaves are unfolding, the coming season.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAIRMAN, *Committee on Lights and Trees.*

REPORT OF CHIEF OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Plainfield:

Gentlemen:—In accordance with the requirements of your Honorable Body, I herewith submit a report of the condition and operation of the Fire Department, giving the number of fires and alarms, with amount of insurance and losses as nearly as could be ascertained, for the year ending December 26, 1906.

The manual force of the Department is divided into two classes, permanent and call men. The permanent force consists of:

- 1 Chief Engineer.
 - 1 Assistant Engineer.
 - 3 Captains of Companies.
 - 1 Driver of Chief's Wagon.
 - 1 Tillerman.
 - 5 Drivers of Apparatus.
 - 3 Hose and Pipe Men.
- The call force consists of:
- 1 Captain.
 - 1 Veterinary Surgeon.
 - 1 Engineer of Steamer.
 - 23 Privates.

HOUSES

The city now owns and occupies three Engine Houses. The Headquarters building, Nos. 145, 147, and 149 E. Second Street, is occupied by No. 2 Hose Wagon, No. 1 Hook and Ladder Truck, Chemical Engine No. 1, Chief's Wagon and exercise wagon. The Chief's office is located in this building.

Nos. 206 and 208 W. Second Street is occupied by No. 1 Hose Company and No. 1 Steamer.

No. 3 Engine House is located at 730 and 732 W. Fourth Street, and is occupied by No. 3 Combination Chemical and Hose Wagon, the spare Truck and exercise wagon.

The Headquarters building, as a whole, is in good repair, except that the main or apparatus floor will soon have to be renewed.

No. 1 Engine House needs extensive repairs. The front doors are about ready to fall to pieces; the floors need renewing. The center partition should be taken out, making one room of the apparatus floor. The stone pavement in the sidewalk, never a good job, is now in a very bad state. The stones should be taken up and the walk relaid with brick or cement.

No. 3 Engine House is in good repair except that the interior needs painting.

APPARATUS

The Department has in service:

- 1 Third size Amoskeag Steam Fire Engine, 600 gallons rated capacity.
- 1 Hayes Aerial Turntable Hook and Ladder Truck.—65 foot extension ladder; one 40 foot ground extension; 173 feet of side and nest ladders..
- 1 Double Tank 60 Gallon Halloway Chemical Engine.
- 1 Double Tank 35 gallon Halloway Combination Chemical and Hose Wagon.
- 2 Hose Wagons.
- 2 Exercise Wagons.
- 1 Chief's Wagon (good).
- 1 Chief's Wagon (old).
- 1 Iron Frame Hook and Ladder Truck (on call).
- 8 Three gallon Halloway Extinguishers.

During the year, the Aerial Truck has been repaired and painted, and the steel tires removed and replaced with rubber tires. All of the Hose Wagons and the Chief's Wagon have been touched up and varnished. This puts all of our apparatus in good order. I hope that the Council will be able next year to place rubber tires on the two Hose Wagons, then all of the apparatus will be equipped with rubber tires.

HOSE

We have in use in the Department 5000 feet of hose that is good; about 1500 feet of hose which should be sold. We need 2000 feet of new hose, as some of that which we have has been in use for seven or eight years.

HORSES

Thirteen horses are owned by the city, twelve of which are doing duty. One is lame and is used only part of the time. This horse should be sold and replaced with a good one. The two horses used for the Steamer are hired, and are on call during the day, but are stabled at the Engine House at night. This team should be owned by the city too.

FIRE ALARM

This very important branch of the service has been well taken care of during the year by the N. Y. & N. J. Telephone Company, under the management of Mr. C. W. Runyon, but directly in charge of Mr. A. C. Applegate. All of our wire (24 miles) is strung overhead and requires a great deal of care to keep in order. There are 41 boxes or stations, virtually on one circuit; 2 private; one twelve-inch steam gong located at the electric light station; four fifteen inch house gongs (one located at the Pumping station); three mechanical and five electrical tappers located in the houses of officers and members of the Department. One bank of storage, forty cells, type B. One power switch board; Motor Generator (Cabot) 120 Volt, owned by the N. Y. & N. J. Telephone Co.

I would call the attention of your Honorable Body to my reports for the last three years in regard to the need of a repeater and switch-board, and would add that the Buss Bar now in use in the battery room is dangerous even for an expert to handle under certain conditions. With the exception of a few electric light wires, our fire alarm wires are the only wires over head in the center of the city.

FIRES AND ALARMS

There have been 99 alarms during the year, 7 less than last year.

Telephone alarms 44.

Box alarms 43.

Verbal or Still alarms 12.

INSURANCE AND LOSSES

Loss on Buildings	\$ 10,286 88
Insurance on Buildings	112,650 00
Loss on Contents	10,977 20
Insurance on Contents	62,310 00
Total amount of Insurance	174,960 00
Total amount of Insurance collected	20,444 08
Total loss insured and uninsured	21,264 08
Total value of property involved	

Real Estate \$149,075 00

Personal 94,328 00 243,403 00

Causes of fires:

Defective flues	18
Unknown	18
Woods and Grass	12
Debris	6
Steam	4
Electric	4
Gas and Oil stoves	4
Out City	3
Locomotive sparks	3
Ashes	2
Gasolene	2
Children and Matches	2
Stoves	3
Disinfectant	1
Smoking in bed	1
Fire works	1
Incubator	1
Pan grease	1
Rags	1
Heater	1

Thawing pipes	1
Mice and matches	1
False alarm	1
Cigar	1
Gas escape	1
Auto	1
Benzine	1
Bon fire	1
Lamp	1
Matches	1
Smoke	1

 99

Amount of duty performed by Department:

No duty	31
Fires put out by small extinguishers	23
Hydrants and chemicals	11
Chemicals	10
Hydrant Stream	9
Beaten out	7
Steamer and Hydrants	3
Pails water	2
Chemicals and small extinguishers	2
Thrown out	1

 99

DEATHS

We lost one member of the permanent force by death during the year. William Ross was killed by being thrown from a trolley car. He had served thirty-five years as a fireman in the Volunteer and the Paid Department; a good, faithful man.

WATER SUPPLY

There are in service 327 hydrants, 24 of which are four way; 303 two way, an increase of seven over last year. The water pressure throughout the city is about seventy-five pounds, except in the East End of the city, and especially at Netherwood Heights, where the pressure will age about forty pounds. I hope that next year the Council will make some arrangement to increase our water pressure. The Water Company placed a new seven million gallon pump in service in addition to the five million gallon pump now in use, replacing a three million gallon pump formerly used.

RECAPITULATION

All the apparatus in use in the Department has been touched up and varnished. The Hook and Ladder Truck has been painted and varnished

and the steel tires replaced by rubber tires. The old electric wiring in Headquarters Building, condemned by the Insurance Companies, was all removed and replaced with new wires placed in iron conduits, and it is now in first class, up-to-date condition. The fire alarm wires throughout this building were all rearranged and placed in iron conduits by the members of the department located there.

I again call your attention to the need of a few more permanent men. A steam heater should be attached to our Steam Fire Engine, and we need more hydrants in the business section of Front Street. I trust the new Council will see the necessity of erecting a new Engine House in the East end of the city.

IN CONCLUSION

I tender my thanks to Mayor Buckle, to all of the members of the Common Council for the interest they have taken in the Fire Department; to Chief Kiely and the members of the Police Force for the service rendered by them at fires; to the officers and members for the good work done by all of them under difficult circumstances during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

T. O. DOANE, *Chief Engineer, Fire Dept.*

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Plainfield:

Gentlemen:—I herewith tender my report as Inspector of Buildings for the year ending Dec. 26, 1906.

There have been two hundred and fifty-nine (259) permits granted during the year,—

- 98 for 106 Frame Dwellings.
- 47 for 48 Frame Extensions, Dwellings, Stores etc.
- 43 for Frame Barns, Sheds and Shops.
- 9 for Removal of Buildings.
- 8 for Frame Extensions, Frame Barns.
- 7 for Demolition of Buildings.
- 4 for Frame Dwellings and Stores.
- 4 for Brick Extensions, Brick Dwellings.
- 4 for Cement Buildings.
- 3 for Green-houses.
- 3 for Frame Storage Buildings.
- 2 for Demolition and rebuild.
- 2 for Frame Factory Buildings.
- 2 for Brick Store Buildings.
- 1 for Removal and Erection.
- 1 for Frame Extension Brick Stable.
- 1 for Frame Extension Frame Store Building.
- 1 for Frame Church.
- 1 for Frame Temporary Buildings.
- 1 for Frame Extension, Frame Meeting House.
- 1 for Frame Extension for Frame School Building.
- 1 for Frame Chicken Coop.
- 1 for Brick Extension, Brick Factory Building.
- 1 for Brick Extension Storage Building.
- 1 for Brick Shop Tinsmith.
- 1 for Brick Shop Blacksmith.
- 1 for Brick Extension, Brick Barn.
- 1 for Brick Factory Building.
- 1 for Brick Storage Building.
- 1 for Brick Extension, Frame Dwelling.
- 1 for Brick Dwelling.
- 1 for Cement Extension, Brick Building.
- 1 for Iron Extension, Frame Building.
- 1 for Alteration Storage Building.
- 1 for Alteration Bank Building.
- 1 for Substitution Cement for Brick Wall.
- 1 for Extension and Repairs Storage Buildings.

BOARD OF HEALTH

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Plainfield:

Gentlemen:—The Board of Health, in submitting herewith its eighteenth annual report, would call your attention to the very important matter of garbage collection.

The present method of garbage collection and disposal is not only very inadequate and unsanitary, but is also a constant menace to the health of the city, and unless something is done at once to improve these conditions, serious results may at any time develop.

This question of garbage collection has been brought to your attention on several occasions, and each time has been referred to the Public Affairs Committee, and there pigeon-holed and never even reported back to your Honorable Body.

The report of the Health Officer on this subject is more in detail and if the members of the Common Council will take the time and trouble to read that part of the report referring to the collection of garbage, carefully, we feel sure you will be convinced that some immediate action is imperative.

Other matters in regard to the health of the city are fully covered by the annual report of the Health Officer to the Board of Health; this report is attached and submitted herewith to your Honorable Body as the report of the work done by this Board during the year 1906.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. J. FISK, *President*

B. VAN D. HEDGES, M. D., *Secretary*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Plainfield, N. J., December 31, 1906

To the Board of Health, City of Plainfield, N. J.:

Gentlemen:—The following is a statement of the Board's finances for the year ending December 31, 1906:

FEES

Receipts

Plumbing fees	\$615 00
Garbage, Offal and Scavenger Permit fees.....	175 00
Milk Permit fees	183 67
Ice Permit fees	6 00
Barber Shop Permit fees	52 00
	<hr/>
	\$1031 67

Disbursements

Amount paid to City Treasurer	\$1031 67
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BOARD OF HEALTH ACCOUNT

Receipts

Balance January 1, 1906	\$ 35 56
Sale of Disinfecting Paper, June 30	1 40
Appropriation from Common Council	5000 00

Disbursements

	\$5036 96
Salaries	\$3729 00
Rent of Offices	270 00

General Expenses

Printing, Stationery, Typewriter Supplies.....	\$197 68	
Cleaning Offices	78 00	
Telephone	89 35	
Carriage Hire	103 50	
Printing and Distributing Annual Report	72 88	
Postage	5 28	
Carfare	30 95	
Railroad Fare	21 00	
Expressage	9 50	
Bicycle and Repairs	34 75	
Serving Notices	5 75	
Expenses of Representative to N. J. Sanitary Assoc.	9 31	
Expenses of Representative to Conference of Health		
Officers and Inspectors	1 85	
Inspector's Uniform	25 00	
Insurance on Isolation Hospital	35 00	
Notary's Commission	6 00	
Expenses Removing Dead Animals	2 75	
Miscellaneous Supplies and Expenses	37 40	765 95

Contagious Diseases

Disinfecting Supplies	29 94	
Printing	8 75	
Consultation Fees	10 00	
Carriage Hire	25	48 94

Laboratory Expenses

Supplies and Apparatus	52 44	
Milk and Cream Samples	14 70	
Gas	15 50	
Miscellaneous Expenses	6 83	89 47

Total	\$4903 36
Balance December 31, 1906	133 60
	\$5036 96

SUMMARY

Receipts

Balance January 1, 1906	\$ 35 56
Sale of Disinfecting Paper	1 40
Appropriation from Common Council	5000 00
Fees Collected and Paid to City Treasurer	1031 67
	<hr/>
	\$6068 63

Disbursements

General Expenses	\$4903 36
Fees Paid to City Treasurer	1031 67
Balance December 31, 1906	133 60
	<hr/>
	\$6068 63

Respectfully submitted,

FRED W. DUNN, *Treasurer*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH OFFICER

To the Board of Health, City of Plainfield, N. J.:

Gentlemen:—I present herewith a detailed report of the work performed by this department during 1906, together with such tables and statistics as may be of interest to the citizens of Plainfield.

The general health of the city, as measured by the total mortality and the communicable diseases, has been remarkably good during the past year; the death rate is low and the number of cases of communicable disease is smaller than any year since 1897.

The two great needs of the city from a sanitary standpoint are:

First, a proper collection and disposal of the garbage, ashes and rubbish.

Second, an ordinance prohibiting the burning of leaves, and also one prohibiting bon fires in the crowded sections of the city.

The question of garbage collection has been thoroughly discussed in previous reports. I would now respectfully urge that measures be taken to obtain some collection system for the coming summer of 1907.

The annoyance caused by the burning of leaves every fall cannot be emphasized too forcibly. Under the laws of the State of New Jersey, this matter does not come within the jurisdiction of a board of health. I would, therefore, strongly recommend that the Board request the Common Council to adopt the necessary ordinances to stop this practice. Both of these subjects are discussed in detail later in this report.

VITAL STATISTICS

Our estimated population for 1906 is 19,100. This estimate is based on the State and National censuses for 1900 and 1905.

The following returns were made during 1906:

Marriages	155
Births	404
Still-Births	15
Deaths	298
<hr/>	
Total	892

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

A remarkably low number of cases of communicable disease occurred throughout the year, there being only 147 reported. There were 32 deaths but 26 of these resulted from tuberculosis. The different diseases and deaths are shown by the following table:

DISEASE	CASES	DEATHS
Scarlet Fever	27	1
Diphtheria	23	2
Typhoid Fever	19	2
Tuberculosis	42	26
Measles	20	0
Chicken Pox	16	0
<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	147	32

TUBERCULOSIS

Forty-two cases were reported and 26 deaths. The number of cases exceeded those of last year for the reason that physicians are more faithful in reporting this disease, and we feel sure that 42 represents the actual number of cases which came under the care of physicians during the year.

Disinfection after deaths or removal of patients suffering from tuberculosis, was continued through the year; and also every effort was made to give publicity to our anti-spitting ordinance. In addition to the above, a circular containing information for consumptives and those living with them, was issued for distribution among all classes, whether consumptives or not.

ICE SUPPLY

The local sources of supply—Watchung Lake and The Hygeia Ice Plant—from which the ice for Plainfield has been obtained in previous years, were not sufficient for the needs of the city this past year. Owing to the warm winter of 1905-06, very little ice was cut from Watchung Lake, and although this was supplemented by the entire output of the

artificial ice plant, which was from 25 to 30 tons daily, it became necessary, during the latter part of the season, for the dealers to purchase ice outside the city.

Analysis

The following are the analyses of the two samples of ice taken from wagons in the city on June 26th and 27th:

The Watchung Lake ice was 7 inches thick with $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches of snow ice and $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches bubbly ice.

The Hygeia ice was about 12 inches thick and very clear.

Parts Per 1,000,000

	WATCHUNG LAKE	HYGEIA
Color	None	None
Odor, hot	"	"
Odor, cold	"	"
Turbidity	"	"
Taste	"	"
Sediment	"	"
Ammonia, free .....	.030	.036
Ammonia, albuminoid .....	.042	.096
Nitrates .....	.000	.000
Nitrites .....	.000	.000
Chlorine	5.202	5.202
Oxygen consumed .....	.000	.000
Bacteria per cc	(snow) .424	.116
	(bubbly) .95	

Permits were granted for the sale of ice from both these sources.

GARBAGE

A proper sanitary method for the collection and disposal of the garbage and ashes of Plainfield is today one of the most important questions with which the city has to deal. This past year we received more complaints of nuisances arising from garbage than from any other source. Our house-to-house inspection showed that many of the rear yards are a disgrace to a city that takes such pride in cleanliness as Plainfield. These conditions are due principally to the fact that the prices charged by the collectors are beyond the reach of the poorer people; and under the circumstances, there is little for them to do but to bury the garbage and throw the ashes into the yard.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION

The sanitary survey of the city was continued this past summer. Few new properties were inspected however, most of the time being spent in having the 2,500 houses already inspected, thoroughly cleaned up. This work has been greatly delayed on account of the large number

of sewer connections and new plumbing systems made necessary in order to abolish the vaults and cesspools. In the early part of the summer the following notices were served:

165 notices to connect with the sewer

282 notices to abolish vaults

145 notices to abolish cesspools

During the year we succeeded in having

107 sewer connections made

282 vaults abolished

114 cesspools abolished

In the past three years we have had a total of 700 vaults and 300 cesspools abolished. This coming year the work will be pushed with all possible energy and we hope to have every vault and cesspool in all but the out-lying parts of the city, abolished.

In connection with this work, several houses which were found unfit for human habitation were either torn down or steps were taken to have them put in a sanitary condition—among them, Durlach Row.

NUISANCES

During the year 253 complaints were received and investigated. 210 of these were abated; in the remainder the Board had no power or, there was no cause for complaint. The following is a tabulated list of the various causes for complaint:

Garbage and refuse	35
Full and overflowing vaults	24
Full and overflowing cesspools	15
Water closets in unsanitary condition	27
Accumulations of manure	17
Burning of paper and rubbish	9
Defective plumbing	17
Dumping grounds	12
Houses, yards and cellars in unsanitary condition.....	11
Stagnant water	12
Privy vaults, lack of, or temporary.....	8
Miscellaneous	23
Total	210
Cases in which no action could be taken	43

DISINFECTION

The following is a list of the disinfections made during 1906:

DISEASE	NO. HOUSES	NO. ROOMS
	DISINFECTED	
Scarlet Fever	27	56
Diphtheria	19	33

Tuberculosis	26	37
Measles	5	7
Erysipelas	2	3
Tonsilitis	1	1
Chicken Pox	1	2
La Grippe	1	1
Unknown	3	13
Pneumonia	1	6
Total	86	159

In addition to the above, three stables were disinfected.

INSPECTIONS

Plumbing Inspections

Smoke tests	58	
Water tests	241	
Sewer connections	311	
Cesspool connections	37	
Cellar water closets	163	
Completed plumbing systems	56	
Additions to plumbing systems	60	
Alterations to plumbing systems	63	
Defective plumbing systems	33	
Outside hopper closets	20	1042

General Inspections

Visits to houses with communicable disease	233	
Inspection on complaint	253	
Inspections for vaults and cesspools	172	
House-to-house inspections	6	
Inspections of dairies	543	
Inspections of stores selling milk	41	
Inspections of barber shops	25	
Inspections of toilet rooms in public buildings	19	
Inspections of sources of ice supply	2	
Re-inspections on notices	1061	2340
Total		3382

MILK SUPPLY

A careful supervision of the milk supply has become one of the most important branches of the work of this Board. The system of dairy inspection and milk analysis started five years ago, was continued through this past year. Five hundred and forty-three dairy inspections were made of the 102 dairies supplying Plainfield with milk and forty-

one inspections of the stores selling milk. As the sources are constantly changing, it is only by repeated and careful inspections that a high standard can be maintained.

In connection with this work of dairy inspection, a crusade against polluted dairy wells was begun. Fifty samples of water were taken from wells on different dairy premises, particular attention being paid to the wells used for washing milk utensils, bottles, etc. The result of these analyses showed many wells to be badly polluted by barnyard drainage; in each instance these wells were ordered closed. We hope to complete this work during the coming year, and we will then know that every dairy supplying milk in Plainfield is provided with a good, wholesome water, free from contamination.

Three hundred and forty-one samples of milk were analyzed, as follows:

No. samples collected by Inspector	255
No. samples brought to office	86
Total	341

Fifteen of the above samples were below standard. The State law requires that milk shall contain not less than 12 per cent. of milk solids. Chemically the milk was very good throughout the year, but much trouble was experienced with the bacteria.

During the summer months several samples were taken which were excessively high in bacteria. An investigation showed in most cases, some abnormal condition at the dairy—frequently the lack of ice. Bacteria in milk are not always an indication of dirt. A high number may be due to careless handling or to improper storing. Recent experiments have shown that a certain milk stored at a temperature of 50 degrees F. contained 89,000 bacteria at the end of 24 hours; at the end of 48 hours, 1,940,000. Even at a temperature of 42 bacteria will reproduce slowly. As the summer temperature of the average dairy well is about 50-55, it is impossible, without the use of ice, for a dairyman to have milk low in bacteria. The scarcity and very high price of ice during the summer was therefore largely responsible for this trouble with the bacteria.

The following is the average of all samples taken during the year compared with those of the four previous years:

	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Fats	4.38	4.27	3.97	4.18	4.05
Solids	13.23	13.20	12.94	13.17	13.01
Solids not fat	8.85	8.93	8.97	8.99	8.96
Lactometer	111	107	107	106	106
Bacteria per cc	128,553	63,461	97,891	43,500	142,311

TABLE SHOWING VARIATION IN BACTERIA

Samples containing 10,000 bact. per cc. or less	5		
from 10,000 — 20,000 per cc	12		
20,000 — 30,000	55		
30,000 — 40,000	63	135	
40,000 — 60,000	30		
60,000 — 100,000	34	64	199
“ “ “ 100,000 — 200,000 “	19		
200,000 — 500,000	19		
500,000 — 1,000,000	14		
over 1,000,000 per cc	4		56
Total			255

WATER ANALYSIS

The water supply of Plainfield has maintained its usual excellent quality. The following is the analysis of a sample taken on July 23rd from the tap in the laboratory:

ANALYSIS

Parts per 1,000,000

Color	0
Odor, cold	1 e
Odor, hot	0
Turbidity	0
Total Solids	150
Loss on ignition	51
Mineral residue	99
Nitrogen as ammonia .....	.000
Nitrogen by per manganate .....	.006
Nitrogen as nitrites .....	.001
Nitrogen as nitrates	0.60
Chlorine	3.2
Alkalinity	96
Iron	0.0
Appearance on ignition	Did not darken.
B. coli communis	Absent.

The water from wells in various parts of the city was analyzed and in some instances, the wells have been ordered closed.

Respectfully submitted,

L. R. THURLOW, *Health Officer.*

REPORT OF ALMS COMMITTEE

Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 28, 1906

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Plainfield:

Your Alms Committee wishes to report as follows for the year just closing, December 31, 1906:

December 31, 1906,	
Balance on hand	\$ 10.57
Amount of 1904 Taxes Collected	54.54
Amount of 1905 Taxes Collected	1,154.72
Amount appropriated and levied for the year 1906, \$6,500.00, of which sum there has been collected and deposited to the credit of the Poor Fund	5,110.75
Bills Payable on Note	1,000.00
Total Amount Available	<hr/> \$7,330.58

The expenses of this Department have been as follows:

Industrial Home

Salary of Superintendent and Matron	\$ 360 00	
Foods and Provisions	1,478 65	
City Water	27 00	
Fuel	441 75	
Clothing	190 16	
Repairs	487 08	
Services	113 25	
Sundries and Supplies	345 07	
Burials	30 00	\$3,472 96

Outside Poor

Provisions	\$ 305 65	
Fuel	30 40	
Rents	520 57	
Board and Care	511 65	
Insane	65 70	
Transportation	62 15	
Burials	80 00	
Care of Cemetery Lot	10 00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	17 05	\$1,603 17

Overseer of the Poor	\$ 600 00
Salary of City Physician	365 00
Medicines	100 00
Muhlenburg Hospital—Care Indigents	1,000 00
Artificial Leg	30 00
Telephone Service	24 50
Interest on Notes	8 34
Stationery and Stamps	3 30

Total Disbursements \$7,207 27

Balance on hand to credit of Poor Fund, January 1, 1907 .. 123 31

INMATES CARED FOR AT THE INDUSTRIAL HOME DURING THE YEAR 1906.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Inmates in Industrial Home at last report, December 31, 1905	9	12	21
Number received at Industrial Home during the year 1906	2	2	4
	—	—	—
Total	11	14	25

	MALE	FEMALE	
Number disposed of during the year 1906	3	2	
Number of deaths at Industrial Home during the year 1906	2	1	8
	—	—	—
Leaving a total number of Inmates at the Industrial Home December 31, 1906.....	9	8	17

OUTSIDE POOR CARED FOR DURING THE YEAR

Applicants receiving provisions	10
Released or dropped as not worthy	7
Number receiving provisions at present time	3
Board and care	8
Released or dropped	2
Number receiving board and care at present	6
Applicants receiving rent	13
Released or dropped	6
Number receiving rent at present time	7
Burials	10
Fuel	5

Total number receiving miscellaneous help outside during the year ending December 31, 1906 409

Patients sent to Muhlenberg Hospital	3
Referred to Organized Aid Association	31
Insane cases	4
Applications for help	151
Investigated and found worthy—help given	30
Temporary aid given	71
Referred to Relief Association	19
Outside work given	6
Advice given	9
Medical attendance given	389
Services of City Nurse—visits at Industrial	40
Willful non-support cases in court	2
Willful non-support cases settled out of court	10
Desertions of husbands	2
Bastardy proceedings in court	4
Bastardy cases settled out of court	6
Children disposed of by Overseer.....	3
Calls made by the Overseer at the Industrial Home	131
Calls made by Overseer outside.....	95
Communications received by the Overseer	208
Communications answered by the Overseer	119
Calls at office and home of Overseer	318

Respectfully submitted,

C. C. RANDOLPH,

Chairman Alms Committee.

REPORT OF CITY JUDGE

To the Honorable Common Council, City of Plainfield:

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report as City Judge of the City of Plainfield for the year ending December 12, 1906:

No. of fines imposed	105
No. of suspended sentences	382
No. committed to County Jail	39
No. complaints dismissed	10
No. placed in charge of probation officer	7
No. cases referred to Juvenile Court	2
<hr/>	
Total number of cases	545

RECEIPTS

Amount collected from fines	\$614 00
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DISBURSEMENTS

March, 1906. Paid Florence S. McCarthy one-half fine imposed in disorderly case	\$12 50
April, 1906. Paid Patrick S. Kiely, for expenses to date	34 00
December, 1906. Paid Patrick S. Kiely, for expenses to date	56 00
<hr/>	
Total disbursements	102 50
Amount turned over to City Treasurer	\$511 50

Respectfully submitted,

WM. N. RUNYON,
City Judge of Plainfield.

REPORT OF CITY PHYSICIAN

To the Honorable Common Council, City of Plainfield:

Gentlemen:—Herewith is presented a report of the work of the City Physician for the year ending January 1, 1907:

NAME OF PATIENT	COLOR	ADDRESS	CONDITIONS REQUIRING TREATMENT	VISITS	TERMINATION
Elizabeth Lawrence.	Colored	Central Ave.	Chr. Cystitis.	28	Greatly Imp
Mrs. Ed. Verity.	White	E. Front St.	Chr. Endocarditis	10	Died.
Mr. Clarkson Mundy.	White	W. 3rd. St.	Arterio Sclerosis	29	Unimproved.
Mrs. Annie Ross.	White	S. 2nd. St.	Neuralgia	2	Recovery.
Mrs. Norah Edmundson.	White	221 Plainfield Ave.	Chr. Endocarditis	27	Improved.
Mrs. Garfinkle.	White	W. 3rd. St.	Rheumatism	3	Recovery.
Bridget Beuch.	White	Liberty St.	Chr. Rheumatism	47	Improved
Mrs. Delaney.	White	611 S. 2nd. St.	Pneumonia	17	Recovery.
Joe Pasto (Mrs.)	White	244 E. 4th. St.	Malaria	2	Recovery
Mrs. C. Mundy.	White	W. 3rd. St.	Hemiplegia	27	Improved.

Total number of families who have the services of City Physician regularly—Ten.

Total number of visits to above families.....	192
Total number of visits to Industrial Home	71
Total number of visits to Police Headquarters	30
Total number of miscellaneous patients treated	47
Total number of miscellaneous visits to such patients	80
Examinations of bastardy cases	3

Total visits for year ending January 1, 1907 423
Deaths—2—viz., Mrs. Ed. Verity, and Thos. Taggart.

Respectfully submitted,

E. B. LUFBURROW, M. D.,

City Physician.

REPORT OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

To the Honorable Common Council, City of Plainfield:

The Board of Directors of the Plainfield Public Library report as follows:

The number of the volumes in the Library May 31, 1905 was	24,118
Volumes added by purchase during the year	555
Volumes added by gift	639
Volumes added by binding	29

Total number of volumes in Library, May 31, 1906.....	25,341
To these should be added, volumes in Babcock Library.....	7,468

Making a total of	32,809
Less withdrawals	1,502

Actual total	31,307
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There were 290 additions to the Babcock Library last year.

Number of different periodicals regularly received	200
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Number of card-holders, 5785, (old registration); 4406, (new registration).

Number of visitors to the building	54,028
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The circulation of books and the general character and kind of books loaned have been as follows:

SUBJECT	VOLUMES
Fiction	21,963
Juvenile	7,523
Biography, Correspondence, etc.	1,710
Philosophy	370
Religion, Mythology, etc.	623
Sociology	951
Philology	92
Natural Science	1,254
Useful Arts, including Medicine	1,163
Fine Arts	1,418
Literature	3,484
Description and Travel	2,284
History	1,866
General Works, Periodicals, etc.	2,101
Total circulation	46,802

Respectfully submitted,

MASON W. TYLER, *President.*

*Board of Directors of the Plainfield Public
Library and Reading Room.*